



Napa-Solano Counties BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

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BUILDING TRADES DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.
STATE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL



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January 15, 2015

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
455 Golden Gate Ave., Ste. 10600
San Francisco, CA 94102-7019



Dear Chair Wasserman and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Napa-Solano Building and Construction Trades Council and the thirty trade unions that we represent with over 10,000 Building Trades men and women. I write to express our strong support for the Lehigh Hanson sand harvesting application currently under review by the Commission.

This sand is a critical component for our local economy. It is used in thousands of construction activities/projects throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area. The list of new or restorative projects that rely on this sand, whether private development, public works or even environmental restoration, is numerous.

To mention just a few benefits, locally harvested sand reduces project costs. It keeps our environment cleaner as it minimizes the need to ship or truck sand from faraway places. These operations sustain a middle class workforce that makes the bay area an affordable area for our members to live and raise a family.

This sand is a critical and very much needed public benefit. The demand for this sand, and the construction products that are created with this sand, will not change. But changing the source of this sand will have a negative impact on jobs, the environment and the local economy.

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed and certified by the California Lands Commission on a 3-0 vote (Lt. Governor Newsom, Controller Chaing, and the Department of Finance Director). The EIR demonstrated that a majority of the potential environmental impacts were less than significant and for those that were significant, they will be fully mitigated.

We respectfully urge that you approve the application from Lehigh Hanson for continued sand harvesting in the Bay.

Sincerely,

Ben Espinoza
President

BE:brm
Opeiu #3 AFL-CIO



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January 19, 2015

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 10600
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Support for Hanson/Lind Marine Sand Harvesting Application

Dear Chairman Wasserman and Commission Members,

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group is pleased to express support for the Lehigh Hanson/Lind Marine Inc. sand harvesting application currently under review by the Commission. As you know, commercial sand mining has occurred within the San Francisco Bay for more the 70 years. Hanson/Lind Marine Inc. currently uses sand from the San Francisco Bay and the western Bay Delta estuary on land leased primarily from the California State Lands Commission.

The Hanson/Lind Marine sand is used for construction activities throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area and as a local resource helps lowers public and private construction costs. Alternatives will significantly impact greenhouse gas emissions in the region. It is critical to the Bay Area economy and the environment that BCDC continue to allow this local sand harvesting at the historic levels requested in the permit application.

In 2012, California State Lands Commission (CSLC) approved an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for their San Francisco Bay and Delta Sand Mining Project. The CLSC'S EIR concluded that with the imposition of mitigation measures, all environmental impacts would be reduced to less than significant. In fact, the project is projected to reduce 4.7 million miles of truck traffic on Bay Area roads every year, resulting in greenhouse gas emissions 45 times lower than those associated with the evaluated "no project alternative."¹

Shipping sand from remote locations for these purposes will only exacerbate the environmental challenges, dramatically increase costs and have a negative impact on local efforts to get ahead of these challenges. Additionally, sand harvested from the Bay is used in Bay Area residential and commercial buildings, road and freeway construction, and in other types environmental restoration.

In summary, we respectfully request BCDC approve the Lehigh Hanson/Lind Marine Inc. sand harvesting permit at the historic levels previously approved by the Commission.

Thank you for considering our request and for your leadership on this issue. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Carl Guardino
President and CEO
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

¹ No Project" alternative means sand will be imported from other areas of the state, country and Canada; Source: Air Quality Technical Appendix: In support of an Environmental Assessment of the Hanson Jerico Sand Mining Operations in the SF Bay Area, for the US Army Corps of Engineers under the National Environmental Policy Act. ENVIRON International Corporation, San Francisco, California. December 9, 2013

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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THE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION
OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

January 14, 2015

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 10600
San Francisco, CA 94102-7019

Dear Chairman Wasserman and Commission Members:

On behalf of the member companies of the Industrial Association of Contra Costa County, I am also writing to express our support for the Lehigh Hanson/Lind Marine Inc, sand-harvesting application currently under review by the Commission. Commercial sand mining has occurred in the Bay-Delta since the 1930's more than 70 years.

This method is a critical component for our local economy and environment. It is used for construction activities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area from ready-mix, hot mix asphalt, in construction and maintenance of our highway and freeway systems and residential construction.

Any alternate would have a major impact on our environment. If shipped from elsewhere it would have a major impact on greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the Bay Area by the way of increased shipping and truck emissions. In addition, increased emissions would disproportionately impact environmental justice (EJ) communities throughout the Bay Area.

In summary, this process is critical to the Bay Area economy (jobs) and the environment and that we urge BCDC to approve the volumes requested by Lehigh Hanson/Lind Marine Inc sand-harvesting permit at 2.04 million cubic yards annually.

Sincerely,

Jack Bean
Executive Officer

